

REMARKS

Claims 1-3, 5, 6, 9-15, 18-20, 23, 25 and 26 are currently pending in the subject application and are presently under consideration. A version of the claims is at pages 2-7. Claims 1, 3, 5, 6, 13, 15, 18, 23, 25 and 26 have been amended herein and claims 4, 7, 8, 16, 17, 21, 22 and 24 have been cancelled. Applicants' representative notes with appreciation the indication that claims 8, 11, 12, 20, 23 and 24 would be allowable if recast in independent form to include all limitations of respective base claims and any intervening claims. To this end, independent claims 1, 13, 25 and 26 have been amended to incorporate features deemed allowable by the Examiner. Accordingly, it is believed that that subject patent application is in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration of the subject patent application is respectfully requested in view of the comments and amendments herein.

I. Rejection of Claims 1-3, 5-15 and 18-26 Under 35 U.S.C. §101

Claims 1-3, 5-15 and 18-26 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §101 as being directed to non-statutory subject matter. In view of the amendments to independent claims 1, 13, 25 and 26, this rejection is believed to be moot and should be withdrawn.

II. Rejection of Claims 1-3, 5-7, 9, 10, 13-15, 18, 19, 21, 22, 25 and 26 Under 35 U.S.C. §102(e)

Claims 1-3, 5-7, 9, 10, 13-15, 18, 19, 21, 22, 25 and 26 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by Lee *et al.* (US 6,931,288). This rejection should be withdrawn for at least the following reasons. In view of the incorporation of subject matter deemed allowable by the Examiner into independent claims 1, 13, 25 and 26, this rejection should be withdrawn.

CONCLUSION

The present application is believed to be in condition for allowance in view of the above comments and amendments. A prompt action to such end is earnestly solicited.

In the event any fees are due in connection with this document, the Commissioner is authorized to charge those fees to Deposit Account No. 50-1063 [ALBRP214USA].

Should the Examiner believe a telephone interview would be helpful to expedite favorable prosecution, the Examiner is invited to contact applicants' undersigned representative at the telephone number below.

Respectfully submitted,

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